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[TFR 241-1]

Russian Internal Affairs Ministry
Main Information Center

dated 14 Feb 94 No. 34/5-299

To the Co-Chairman of the
Russian-American
Commission searching for
information concerning US
citizens who became MIA
on the territory of the
USSR during and after
World War II

D.A. Volkogonov

(Report concerning the discovery
of information concerning individuals
in whom the American side has an interest)

Dear Dmitrij Antonovich,

In accordance with the request of the representatives of the American side made at the joint session of the Russian-American commission to clarify information about missing citizens of the USA [U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs] held in December of 1993, the Main Information Center (GITs) of the Russian MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] has conducted an additional check of its holdings for possible information relating to several military servicemembers who became MIA in Southeast Asia in the 1960's and 1970's. The GITs has conducted an information check on a number of other US citizens who were on a list provided to an expert from the Russian MVD GITs.

As a result of this check, it has been established that the Russian MVD GITs has the following information on several individuals who have some resemblance, on paper, to American servicemembers who became MIA in Southeast Asia.

1. Groehrt, Gans Gerbert (he is listed as number G 383 on the list of US military servicemembers who became MIA in Southeast Asia compiled by the American side). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Grauehrt, Gans - Georg - Lyudvig, born in 1923. He was born in Germany, is German by nationality and is a German citizen. He was convicted by the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany military tribunal in 1947 in accordance with the decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, dated

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19 Mar 43, (for committing crimes during the war) and was sentenced to 25 years imprisonment. He was transferred over to German authorities in 1950.

2. Kholl, Donal'd Dzh. (number H 004). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Khill, Daniehl Davidovich, born in 1888. He was born inRussia, is a Finn by nationality and a citizen of the USSR. He was convicted by a "Trojka" of the Orenburg oblast UNKVD in 1938.

3. Gerber, Dehniehl A. (number G 600). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Daniehl', Gerbert, born 1927. He was born in Germany, is German by nationality and is a German citizen. He was convicted by the military tribunal of the Soviet military administration in Germany in 1947. He was transferred to German authorities in 1950.

4. Martin, Dehvid Ehrl (number M 365). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Devitt, Martin Vil'gel'movich, born in 1912. He was born in Berlin, is German by nationality and is a citizen of the USSR. He was convicted by a special hearing held under the auspice of the NKVD USSR in 1944.

5. Miller, Karl D. (number M 062). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Miller, Karl Davydovich, born 1884. He was born in Russia, is German by nationality and is a citizen of the USSR. He was convicted by a "Trojka" of the NKVD of the North-Osset ASSR in 1937.

6. Olds, Ehrnst Artur (number O 004). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Ehrnst, Artur, born in 1889. He was born in Venice, is Austrian by nationality and is a citizen of Austria. He was detained by Soviet counter-intelligence elements in July 1945 and transferred to Austrian police officials in Venice in November 1945.

7. Roberts, Garol'd Dzh. (number R 106). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Gerol'd, Robert, born in 1900. He was born in Germany, is German by nationality and is a German citizen. He was convicted by the military tribunal of the 3rd Shock Army in 1946 in accordance with the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet USSR decree dated 19 April 43 (for crimes committed during World War II).

8. Khollend, Melvin Arnol'd (number H 189). The RF MVD GITs has information on Kholland, Arnol'd Mikhalevich, born in 1914. He was born in Estonia, is Estonian by nationality and is a citizen of the USSR. He was convicted by an Estonia SSR MVD forces military tribunal in 1945.

9. Dzhons, Dzhordzh Ehmerson (number J 372). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Zhans, Zhorzh, born in 1909. He was born in Mexico, is French by nationality and is a citizen of France.

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He was convicted by a military tribunal of the Soviet military administration in Germany in 1948. He was released in 1953 and transferred to representatives of the French government.

10. Lansdorf, Gerbert L. (number L 036). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Gerbert, Lange, born in 1913. He was born in Germany, is German by nationality and is a German citizen. He was convicted by a military tribunal of the Soviet military administration in Germany in 1946 and sentenced to 6 months imprisonment (which began on 22 May 46). He was released on 10 December 46 and was sent to his place of residence.

11. Patterson, Dzhejms Kelli (number P 057). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Peterson, Vil'yam Dzhej, born in 1917. He was born in the US, is Swedish by nationality and is a citizen of the US. He was arrested by state security elements and convicted by the Berlin garrison military tribunal in May 1952 for violation of article 84 of the UK RSFSR (entry into the territory of the USSR without the proper passport or permission from the appropriate authorities). He was sentenced to a prison term that ended in September of 1952. There is no further information held by the Russian MVD GITs concerning the release and further fate of V. D. Peterson.

12. Pepper, Ehntoni Dzhon (number P 375). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Pepper-Pogan' Dzhon Vil'gelm, born in 1886. He was born in Hungary, is Hungarian by nationality and is a citizen of the USSR. He was convicted in 1938.

13. Roberts, Garol'd Dzh. (number R 106). The Russian MVD GITs has information on Roper, Dzhon Tomasovich, born in 1901. He was born in England, is English by nationality, but there is no information on his citizenship. He was convicted in 1939.

Thus, as a result of the information search, it has been established that the Russian MVD GITs does not possess any information on US servicemembers who became MIA in Indochina during the 1960's and 1970's. The individuals listed above, on paper, have some similarities with the US citizens that are on a list that was provided by the American side. They, however, cannot be identified with the latter.

The RF MVD GITs also ran a check through the criminal register of other US citizen MIAs, taken from the following list provided by the American side:

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[Names typed in English and Russian]

1. Robert H. Laier (Robert Kh. Lajer).
2. Lawrence C. Layton (Laurens S. Lajton or Lejton).
3. Theil M. Reeves (Tiel M. Rivs).
4. Charles W. Rhinehart (Charl'z Rajnkhart or Rejnkhart).
5. Charles R. Spath (Charl'z R. Spat or Spas).
6. George A. Davis (Dzhordzh A. Dajvis or Dehjvis or Dehvis).
7. Albert G. Tenney (Al'bert G. Tenni).
8. Felix Asla, Jr. (Feliks Asla mlad.)
9. Deltis H. Fincher (Del'tis Kh. Fincher).
10. Troy G. Cope (Troj G. Kop or Koup).
11. Paul J. Jakobson (Payl Dzh. Yakobson or Dzhajkobson).
12. Robert F. Niemann (Robert F. Nimann).
13. John Southerland (Dzhon Suterland or Suerlan).

There is no information pertaining to the listed individuals in the criminal registers of the Russian MVD.

Chief G. L. Lezhikov

Acting Chief K. S. Nikishkin 222-41-24

[signature "K. Nikishkin"][handwritten "10 Feb 94"]